

Message Text

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ACTION DIWY-01

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 4025

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OTRA, UN

SUBJECT: WCIWY - A THOUSAND SOVIET WOMEN EXPECTED TO ATTEND
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE

1. AT SOVIET EMBASSY RECEPTION LAST EVENING, SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY IGOR DEGTIAR TOLD U.S. EMBOFF THAT SOME ONE THOUSAND SOVIET WOMEN WERE EXPECTED TO COME TO MEXICO CITY TO TAKE PART IN WCIWY ACTIVITIES, ALTHOUGH OFFICIAL USSR DELEGATION WOULD CONSIST OF ONLY ABOUT NINE.

2. DEGTIAR LAMENTED THAT HIS EMBASSY WAS BEING KEPT LARGELY IN THE DARK WITH RESPECT TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFERENCE (NOTING HOW MUCH MORE FORTUNATE WE WERE TO BE IN CLOSE CONTACT VIA USUN) AND SAID HE HAD NO IDEA HOW SUCH A LARGE GROUP WOULD BE ACCOMMODATED HERE. LACKING PRECISE INFO ON GROUP, HE SAID, HE COULD NOT EVEN BEGIN MAKING HOTEL AND TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEM.

3. COMMENT: HARD TO IMAGINE SUCH A LARGE GROUP FROM THE SOVIET UNION, BUT DEGTIAR REPEATED THE FIGURE SEVERAL TIMES. IF ADDRESSEES HAVE INFORMATION CORROBORATING DEGTIAR'S, WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN RECEIVING IT.
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